

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ An apparatus comprising:

a coupling face that couples with a coupling face on a portable device during docking of the portable device;

a connector provided on ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus to connect with a connector of the portable device upon coupling therewith;

a guide member provided adjacent to ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus, ~~and which guides the guide member being operable to guide the portable device into position during said docking of the portable device and to engage a back face of the portable device upon docking of the portable device;~~ and

a mechanism operatively associated with ~~said the~~ the guide member for changing the position of ~~said the~~ the guide member relative to ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus in accommodation of differing portable devices.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the portable device is a portable personal computer, ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus engages ~~the a~~ a base of the portable personal computer, and ~~said the~~ the guide member engages ~~the a~~ a back face of the portable personal computer.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ guide member comprises a first guide face fixed to the apparatus and a second guide face storable provided between ~~said the~~ first guide face and ~~said the~~ connector of the apparatus.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein ~~said the~~ second guide face is provided on a member that can be rotated about a rotation axis parallel to ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus and stored under ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein ~~said the~~ second guide face is provided on a member capable of being stored under ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus by being moved in a direction intersecting ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ guide member ~~has~~ comprises a flap capable of being rotated so that one end of ~~said the~~ flap faces in a direction opposite to the direction in which ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus faces~~[[:]]~~, the one end of said the flap constituting the whole or part of ~~said a~~ guide face of the guide member~~[[:]]~~, and ~~the other another~~ end of ~~said the~~ flap being connected to ~~said the~~ guide member through a rotary shaft for ~~said~~ rotation.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ guide member ~~further~~ comprises a movable portion on which ~~said a~~ guide face is provided, ~~and which is the movable portion being~~ mounted so as to be movable in the direction of ~~intersection~~

~~with said guide face~~ the connector of the apparatus, and wherein ~~said the~~ the mechanism comprises a pusher, ~~which applies~~ the pusher being operable to apply an urging force to ~~said the~~ the movable portion so that ~~said the~~ the guide face moves in the direction of ~~said the~~ the connector of the apparatus, and a positioner, ~~which positions said the~~ the positioner being operable to position the movable portion by stopping ~~said the~~ the movable portion in the direction of its movement at one of at least two predetermined positions ~~of said movable portion in the direction of movement of said movable portion~~ against ~~said the~~ the urging force.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 7, further comprising: a release, ~~which releases~~ the release being operable to release ~~said the~~ the movable portion from ~~the a~~ state of being stopped by ~~said the~~ the positioner according to the coupling between ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus and the ~~mated~~ coupling face on the portable device to enable ~~said the~~ the guide face to be moved in the direction of ~~said the~~ the connector of the apparatus in a case where ~~said the~~ the portable device is a predetermined model.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein ~~said the~~ the release has a model detecting projection provided on ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus, ~~said the~~ the model detecting projection being depressed by the ~~mated~~ coupling face ~~ef~~ on a predetermined model of the portable device at the time of docking, ~~said and the model detecting projection not being not depressed at the time of docking of by the coupling face on~~ a different model of the portable device at the time of docking because a recess is provided in the corresponding portion of the ~~mated~~ coupling face on the different model of the portable device.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein ~~said the~~ pusher ~~includes~~ comprises a translating member mounted on a stationary portion of the apparatus so as to be movable in directions substantially parallel to ~~said the~~ guide face of the movable portion and ~~said the~~ coupling face of the apparatus, a tensile coil spring provided between ~~said the~~ translating member and ~~said the~~ stationary portion, and a pair of rotating members each rotatably connected to ~~said the~~ translating member and ~~said the~~ movable member portion so as to form a parallel link including ~~said the~~ translating member and ~~said the~~ movable member portion as nodes.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein ~~said the~~ pusher ~~includes~~ comprises a pair of lever members intersecting each other in an X-shaped form and rotatably connected to each other, and a tensile coil spring provided between ~~ends~~ one end of ~~said two~~ the pair of lever members, ~~said the pair of~~ the pair of lever members being rotatably mounted at their point of intersection to a stationary portion of the apparatus, ~~the other ends~~ another end of ~~said the pair of~~ the pair of lever members being mounted to ~~said the~~ movable portion so as to be rotatable and movable along the lengthwise directions of the pair of lever members.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein ~~said the~~ movable portion ~~has~~ comprises a flap capable of being rotated so that one end of ~~said the~~ the flap faces in a direction opposite to the direction in which ~~said the~~ the coupling face of the apparatus faces~~[[:]]~~, the one end of said the flap constituting the whole or part of said the guide face of the movable portion~~[[:]]~~, ~~the other~~ another end of ~~said the~~ the flap being connected to ~~said member the~~ movable portion through a rotary shaft for ~~said~~ rotation~~[[:]]~~, and wherein each rotating member

~~having comprises~~ a projection outside the position at which it is mounted to ~~said the~~ movable portion[[:]], ~~and said the~~ projection being positioned at such an angle as to be parallel to a rotation axis of ~~said the~~ flap and in such a position as not to obstruct the rotation of ~~said the~~ flap when ~~said the~~ guide face is in a predetermined position remote from ~~said the~~ connector of the apparatus, and is ~~being~~ positioned so as to have a predetermined angle from the rotation axis of ~~said the~~ flap, to support ~~said the~~ flap and to check the rotation of ~~said the~~ flap when ~~said the~~ guide face is in a predetermined position closer to ~~said the~~ connector of the apparatus.

13. (Original) A docking type function providing apparatus for providing a predetermined function to a portable device docked with the apparatus via their respective connectors, comprising:

a stationary portion in which an electronic circuit for providing the predetermined function is provided;

a coupling face which is fixed on said stationary portion and to which a bottom face of the portable device is coupled;

a hook-like member provided on said coupling face and engaged with a mated engaging portion of the portable device to effect said coupling;

said connector of the apparatus provided on said coupling face to connect with said connector of the device by said coupling;

a push plate provided on said coupling face to push and open a cover for protection of said connector of the apparatus at the time of said connection;

a connector guide provided on said coupling face to guide said connector of the device so that said connector of the device is aligned with said connector of the apparatus;

a positioning projection provided on said coupling face to position a bottom face of the portable device on said coupling face;

a movable portion having a guide face for guiding a back face of the portable device at the time of docking, capable of moving on said stationary portion in a direction perpendicular to said guide face, urged toward said connector of the device by an urging force, and capable of being positioned at any of a plurality of positions against said urging force;

a guide plate provided on said guide face to guide the portable device at the back side in directions parallel to said guide face and said coupling face;

an eject button for release from the engagement by said hook like member;

an ejecting member for disconnecting said connectors in such a manner that said ejecting member is caused to project above said coupling face according to depression of said eject button to push upward the bottom face of the portable device upward;

a model detecting projection provided on said coupling face, said projection being depressed by the mated coupling face of a predetermined model of the portable device at the time of docking, said projection being not depressed at the time of docking of a different model of the portable device because a recess is provided in the corresponding portion of the mated coupling face; and

a flap provided on said movable portion so as to constitute said guide face and to be rotatable so that its end portion on the guide face side is moved downward when said movable portion is in a rear position.

14. (Currently Amended) A portable device capable of being docked with the apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said the device comprising a comprises the recess according to Claim 9.